

MEMORANDUM

Allegheny County Emergency Services

SUBJ: FCC Waiver - KGB327 / WNAB885 / WQH261 / WNKK745

The County of Allegheny formally requests consideration by the Federal Communications Commission of a waiver of Section 1.925 of the Commission's Rules, extending the narrow banding mandate to June 30, 2013 for call signs KGB327, WNAB885, WQH261, and WNKK745.

OVERVIEW

The county currently dispatches over 1.3 million emergency calls annually. Services are provided to over 100 police, 205 fire and 54 EMS agencies as well as to emergency management, county police and sheriffs, and the fire marshal's office.

Allegheny County has, over the past several years, entered into an aggressive program of consolidating local and regional call taking and dispatch centers into a single public safety answering point (PSAP).

Throughout this process, it has been the position of the county to assume responsibility for these communities' currently operating radio systems including their infrastructure, regardless of the vintage and overall condition. Whilst this had met the original intent of ensuring that communities do not endure any additional burdens related to the purchase of new radio technology, this has also had the negative impact of the county assuming radio systems that are truly antiques, not only as they relate to narrow band functionality but in relation to parts support and overall dependability.

While the county has mandated the purchase of subscriber units for County agencies, (police, Sheriff, etc.), under the Commonwealth code we have no authority to mandate purchases for the non-County (municipal) agencies.

The City of Pittsburgh, operating under KGB327 and WNAB885, WQH261, and WNKK745 is one such municipality.

SPECIFIC ISSUES

The City of Pittsburgh has to the date not made the needed purchases of narrow band capable mobile and portable radios for their police, fire and EMS agencies. Information received from the City indicates that they do not anticipate obtaining the approximate 2000 radios until the first quarter of 2013, with installation of approximately 700 mobiles not completed until the second quarter of that year.

Allegheny County, utilizing their own as well as Federal funds did purchase an entire replacement radio infrastructure for use by the City and has installed the components at its tower sites, and is prepared to go live with the narrow banded channels once the City advises the County that it has completed the purchase and installation of the new subscriber units.

KGB327

453.100	458.100
453.250	458.250
453.400	458.400
453.550	458.550
453.700	458.700
453.850	458.850

WNAB885

462.950	467.950
462.975	467.975
463.000	468.000
463.025	468.025
463.050	468.050
463.075	468.075
463.100	468.100
463.125	468.125
463.150	468.150
463.175	468.175

WQH261

453.950	458.950
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WNKK745

453.450	458.450
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